

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Overall picture of Oregon weather continues to be that of cooler temperatures and windy conditions, having an adverse effect on plant and crop development as well as range conditions. Weekly precipitation is below normal for most weather stations but still abundant for this spring. Some snowfall reported in southern Oregon, with Klamath Falls receiving 1.5 inches. Some freeze damage from late last year showing in Marion County caneberries. All but two weather stations reported air temperatures below normal, with Lakeview recording an average of 39 degrees fahrenheit for the week. The Southwest Valleys reported growing degree days ranging from 27 to 46 days below normal.

Field Crops: Grain crops were responding to an increase in temperatures. Wet weather continued to make fieldwork challenging. Most tillage operations were two to three weeks behind normal, particularly in western Oregon. Some fieldwork, including planting of spring crops, occurred on drier, well drained soils. Mint fields made fairly good growth. Grass seed was heading and crimson clover was near full bloom. In Eastern Oregon, some fields of alfalfa were cut. Winter wheat was starting into the "boot" stage and looked healthy. Winter and spring crops responded well to recent rainfall. Some growers were concerned about crop injury to some grass seed crops in Union County as temperatures dipped into low to mid-twenties. The winter wheat crop continued to put on rapid growth and fields were evenly green.

Vegetables: Some areas were still concerned about vegetable planting due to wet fields. Klamath County potato planting was stalled because of wet weather and Union County growers were planting between showers. In Malheur County, potato planting was winding down. In the Willamette Valley, Clackamas County vegetable planting got underway after much delay and in Lane County some early corn and green beans were going in on more sandy soils.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery operations were about done with shipment of plant material and were starting to plant new starts. Greenhouses were still shipping bedding plants to retail outlets and wet weather continued to slow the home gardeners. Spring plant sales were going strong with five or six major sales last weekend in the Portland area. Nursery stock were showing up for sale at Saturday markets in the area.

Fruit: Willamette Valley berries continued in bloom with some beginning to set fruit. Some apple scab, some heavy dead bud and blossom blast in cherries and plums, and some cedar apple rust in pears. Cool, wet weather has slowed down tree fruit development in Yamhill County and has caused pear scab infections in Hood River County. Wasco County sweet cherry set is moderate with good fruit set in most areas. Cherries were approaching marble size in early areas.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: In western Oregon, cattle movement has been affected by the cool, wet conditions. Some pastureland is still too moist to move livestock. Concern exists about lack of growth on some fields. In eastern Oregon, turnout continued. Some ranchers in Harney County were hauling water due to shortage of stock water. Spring showers over northern and central parts of Malheur County have aided grazing conditions. Annual pasture grasses in Wasco County started to head out.

Crop Progress Week Ending 5/18/03

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
All Barley planted (%)				
All Barley emerged (%)				--
Spring wheat planted (%)				
Spring wheat emerged (%)				--
Days suitable for fieldwork			--	--

Soil Moisture Week Ending 5/18/03

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	0			
Subsoil (%)				

Crop Condition Week Ending 5/18/03

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat %	--				
Barley condition %	--				
Range & Pasture %					

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: Grain crops responding to a little increase in temperature. Hay fields look good. Strawberry bloom increasing. Caneberries filling out. Nursery field activity of new planting starts. Greenhouse operators supplying local outlets. Vegetable planting getting underway after much delay. Livestock in good condition.

COOS\CURRY: Cool weather continues to hamper pasture & range growth. Lowlands remain saturated and surface water stands on many bottom pastures and hay fields. Ranchers are concerned about lack of growth on some fields (due to cool weather) and remaining effects of damage to root structures from drought conditions over the last 2 years. Brookings: Precipitation for the period was 0.12 inches, below average by 0.5 inches. Both high (64.47 degrees) and low (41.1 degrees) for the period were slightly below the average. Bandon: Precipitation for the period was 0.54 inches with rainfall on 4 days (slightly below average for the period). The low of 38.56 was 0.31 degrees below average for the period, while the high of 58.41 was 2 degrees below average.

JOSEPHINE: Weather unsettled. Cloudy, windy, rainy and some sunshine. Everything is in bloom. Very wet. Some fresh snow almost daily but none at valley level. Some field work this week. Plowing in dryer areas. Hay ripening and way late for first cutting.

LANE: Blackberries, blueberries and raspberries growing nicely. Bloom yields look moderate to very good. Lingonberries were in full bloom. Apples were in full bloom and lots of scab infection showing. Cherries and plums had heavy dead bud and blossom blast disease this year. Pears have high levels of cedar apple rust and scab. Hazelnut bud mite is still in the bud and hasn't moved yet. Typical emergence date is

April 15. Buds are loaded with bud mites. Still waiting for the soil to dry to start vegetable planting. Some early corn and green beans going in on sandier soils. Greenhouse sales picking up as the weather turns warm. When rainy, sales drop off. Farmer's markets off 10-20%.

LINN: Ground is still very moist. Most aspects of farming: tilling, fertilizing, etc. are 2 to 3 weeks behind. Some pastureland is still too moist to move livestock.

MARION: Wet weather continues to make field operations challenging. Most fertilizer and herbicide applications have been made on the grass seed and grain crops. It is a little early for the fungicide applications to be in full swing, but some winter wheat is being treated and rust control programs on grass seed crops will get underway soon, depending on weather. Crimson clover fields showing some bloom. Mint fields making fairly good growth, as many have been treated with fungicides for rust control rather than flaming due to the wet weather. Plenty of moisture for grass and pastures. Spring crops now being planted on the better drained soils. Freeze damage from late October and early November is beginning to show in some caneberries.

WASHINGTON: Grass for seed heading. Beets for seed doing well. Alfalfa nearing cutting stage; needs some good weather. Field work starting, soil still high in moisture. Strawberries setting fruit. Raspberries beginning bloom. Caneberries well leafed. Red clover growing well. Crimson clover nearing full bloom. Cattle rotational grazing being practiced. Trees in full color in nurseries.

YAMHILL: Cool, rainy weather has slowed the developmental rate of all tree fruit.

EASTERN OREGON

HOOD RIVER: Wet conditions early in week resulted in pear scab infection periods in most parts of the Hood River Valley. Most orchards have been protected with petal fall fungicide sprays. Mild temperatures have kept fire blight risk low to marginal. Mid-week overnight low temperatures in the low thirties had upper valley growers frost protecting.

HARNEY: Recent rains have been greatly appreciated but cold, windy weather was still delaying grass growth. Most cattle were turned out, although some ranges were still short of stock water. Some were hauling water, some were making alternative feed decisions.

KLAMATH: Snowed 1.5 inches in Klamath Falls area Thursday morning. Cool weather continues. Movement of cattle from annual winter range continues. Potato planting stalled due to wet weather.

LAKE: More moisture in the form of rain and snow. Cooler temperatures have continued this week. This will affect growth of forage.

MALHEUR: Spotty rain showers throughout the week have helped range conditions and reduced the drawdown of irrigation water. Some fields of alfalfa have been cut and are in windrows. Winter wheat is starting into the "boot" stage and looks healthy. Potato planting winding down. Hail on May 4 and 5 in isolated spots around Ontario. Damage assessment unknown. Spring showers over northern and central Malheur County have helped grazing. Most grazing on these acres rated good. Cattle condition looks good. Temperatures below normal for most of the week. All crops looked good. Southern ranges could use more rain.

MORROW: Cloudy and overcast. Not much rain.

SHERMAN: Rains quit by end of April and soils dried out fast with crops quickly showing effect. Warm weather has helped plants grow. Wheat jointed. Cereal rye heading out, cheat grass and foxtail continued to head. Field work continued as normal. Cooler temperatures has slowed plant growth. Continued showers every now and then still appreciated by farmers.

UNION: Winter and spring crops have responded well to recent rainfall events. Peppermint re-growth very slow. There are concerns for crop injury to some grass seed crops as temperatures dipped into the low to mid-twenties this week. Spring planting of grain, sugarbeets and potatoes continues between showers.

WALLOWA: Snow showers the first of the week and cold weather through out the remainder did not help range conditions or crops. Moisture levels are good for most areas. Some concern over getting spring crops planted timely due to wet fields.

WASCO: The winter wheat crop continued to put on rapid growth and fields were evenly green. Farm activities in grain crop areas included tillage and weed spraying. Winds limited amount of time spent weed spraying. Cherry set is moderate with a good fruit set in most areas. Cherries are approaching the size of marbles in early areas. Cherry orchard activity in both The Dalles and Dufur included spraying on both bearing and non-bearing trees, irrigation, and mowing the grass strips between trees. Annual pasture grasses are still looking green and starting to head out. Livestock are doing well on range grasses. Roadside wild rye is starting to head out.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING May 11, 2003 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION				
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS	
							INCHES			INCHES				
COASTAL AREAS														
Astoria/Clatsop	37	60	50	-2	9	-5	0.06	-0.67	3	57.21	-2.47	96	153	
Crescent City	39	59	51	-2	9	-15	0.39	-0.35	2	58.29	-2.48	96	114	
Florence	34	64	50	-3	5	-12	0.29	-0.62	2	74.18	4.62	107	138	
North Bend	39	59	50	-3	6	-15	0.48	-0.25	4	63.89	5.32	109	137	
Tillamook	34	59	48	-3	4	-7	0.49	-0.56	4	80.79	1.48	102	147	
WILLAMETTE VALLEY														
Corvallis	39	68	53	1	26	-1	0.06	-0.43	2	32.68	-6.22	84	112	
Eugene	35	64	51	-4	10	-23	0.21	-0.30	5	39.38	-5.64	87	134	
Hillsboro	36	64	50	-4	6	-22	0.07	-0.30	2	35.39	1.83	105	132	
McMinnville	40	66	51	-4	12	-21	0.04	-0.41	3	38.30	-1.49	96	137	
Portland	40	66	52	-4	19	-20	0.28	-0.21	3	32.34	0.53	102	133	
Salem	39	66	51	-2	14	-11	0.16	-0.26	3	37.40	2.10	106	136	
SW VALLEYS														
Grants Pass	36	65	50	-8	6	-46	0.55	0.27	2	32.97	3.90	113	105	
Medford	36	65	50	-6	8	-37	0.43	0.19	4	22.33	5.43	132	102	
Roseburg	39	67	52	-4	14	-27	0.22	-0.14	2	31.61	1.66	106	121	
NORTH CENTRAL														
Condon	32	63	46	-4	2	-12	0.18	-0.10	4	10.87	-0.23	98	94	
Heppner	31	67	50	-5	13	-17	0.11	-0.24	2	10.65	-0.40	96	94	
Hermiston	30	73	53	-5	28	-24	0.02	-0.12	1	7.39	-0.10	99	72	
John Day	33	57	46	-6	0	-21	0.21	-0.14	2	9.97	0.48	105	90	
Moro	32	68	49	-3	12	-8	0.02	-0.14	1	9.58	0.36	104	72	
Pendleton	31	67	50	-6	13	-31	0.23	0.00	1	10.80	0.90	109	90	
The Dalles	39	70	55	4	40	15	0.16	0.02	1	13.87	3.21	130	84	
SOUTH CENTRAL														
Bend	26	56	42	-6	0	-9	0.31	0.17	3	6.25	-2.97	68	55	
Burns	25	58	45	-5	0	-14	0.11	-0.10	3	6.78	-0.64	91	73	
Klamath Falls	27	53	41	-10	0	-18	0.5	0.33	3	10.77	-0.48	96	81	
Lakeview	28	54	39	-10	0	-14	0.16	-0.12	1	3.64	-8.94	29	44	
Redmond	27	58	44	-5	0	-14	0.37	0.23	3	5.26	-1.09	83	65	
NORTHEAST														
Baker City	25	62	44	-7	1	-13	0.37	0.11	2	6.31	-0.78	89	79	
Joseph	29	61	42	-5	0	0	0.51	0.09	4	16.47	-3.33	83	118	
La Grande	27	61	46	-7	5	-17	0.05	-0.30	3	8.79	-4.67	65	86	
Union	27	63	45	-6	4	-10	0.22	-0.13	4	12.53	2.95	131	103	
SOUTHEAST														
Ontario	37	71	54	-5	33	-25	0.29	0.15	1	7.13	-0.68	91	69	
Rome	29	59	45	-9	0	-30	1.22	1.01	4	6.13	0.33	106	63	

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Sunday, September 1, 2002.

DFN= Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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